

**Partnership for a Healthy Durham
Health and Housing (H&H) Committee Meeting Zoom
Tuesday, July 18th, 2023**

Present: Charlene Reiss, Charlene Harris, Krista Kicsak, Tobin Freid, Jack Leschisin, Kevin Ogbonna, Shelisa Howard-Martinez, Manuel Hyman, Gwen McNeill, Melba Henry, Debbie Royster, Marlene McAuley, Don Bradley, Jacqueline Lowry		
Topic	Major Discussion	Recommendations and Action Steps
Welcome/ Introductions/ Icebreaker <i>Charlene Reiss 8:30-8:40</i>	<p>Icebreaker: Name and without using your job title, tell us what you do. Then, in the chat, tell us your actual title and organization.</p> <p>Introduction of Charlene Harris, Health and Housing’s new co-chair. As a community health worker with Alliance Health, she assists people with intellectual disabilities, mental health, and substance use disorders, which makes a big part of her job finding people housing and keeping them housed. She is excited to be co-chair of this committee. She has been a Durham resident for about 30 years and has been working in the field of case management for about that same amount of time.</p>	
Review May Minutes & Updates <i>All 8:40-8:45</i>	<p>Charlene Reiss will be sending the meeting minutes from June out to the group. If you have any edits, please let a Charlene or Bria know.</p>	<p>If you have any edits to June meeting minutes, please let a Charlene or Bria know.</p>
Year End Review and Moving Forward <i>All</i>	<p>We are beginning the new fiscal year with the County. We would like to look at how 2022-2023 went and what we would like to accomplish in 2023-2024. It is important to identify what our lane is with this group, make sure we are valuable, and not reinventing the wheel or getting in the way of other organizations in the community.</p> <p><u>What stood out to H&H Committee members from our meetings in the last year?</u></p> <p>Members praised the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The committee did a great job of reaching out to other people and organizations to see how this group might help. • Continue with the great email updates. • Heard what so many other organizations have been doing in the community (examples included: healthcare for the homeless clinic, people 	

**Partnership for a Healthy Durham
Health and Housing (H&H) Committee Meeting Zoom
Tuesday, July 18th, 2023**

from [PEACH](#), Reinvestment Partners, sustainability efforts and the overlap with housing, as well as program management presenters.

What the group would like to see over the next year

- Answer the following questions: What are the needs that need to be met in our community? What are some areas that we might be able to connect and really help?
- Outreach with other organizations in Durham for information on what they do, extending an invitation to these meetings (examples included Durham Community Action, Step up Durham, and Casa).
- What organizations are related to aged-out foster care communities? How can our group extend our partnership with maybe DSS or other resources to support this group?
 - Life Skills might be a great resource for this population, but the committee to reach out to others as well.

Are there other vulnerable communities that we need to center our work around?

- Formerly incarcerated individuals and families
 - The Bloomberg Initiative worked with Mayor O’Neal and a group of community leaders on a project addressing housing for those who are justice involved. Hopefully, next month Bria can share with us what they are doing. That group came up with some priorities and are working on the next iteration of implementation.
 - Charlene Harris posed the Reentry Council as a potential presenter to this group, as well as the organization the Village. She will be reaching out to see if these groups would like to join this meeting and see what supports they need.
- Charlene Reiss is also working on projects addressing the needs of children age 0-6 who are experiencing homelessness.

Invite:
Step Up Durham
CASA
Durham Community Action
LifeSkills
Reentry Council
PHD PANFA Committee
[Collaborative Cottage Grove](#)
to present at future meetings

**Partnership for a Healthy Durham
Health and Housing (H&H) Committee Meeting Zoom
Tuesday, July 18th, 2023**

- There is interest in an update on evictions after Covid-19 protections went away.
 - Possible groups suggested are DataWorks, Neighborhood Compass, Eviction Diversion, and Legal Aid.

Suggestions on how we can best work together to make things happen.

- Hosting a symposium on health and housing in Durham.
 - This could be a half-day program held at Durham County Department of Public Health.
 - Bring people together who are health-focused, housing-focused, work on economic development, etc.
 - Include representatives from vulnerable populations.
 - Raise awareness of connection between health and housing.
 - Really try getting down to the nitty gritty on the gaps in this area.
 - Consensus from the group is that this is definitely needed, and the group discussed including Duke Health, City officials, and County officials in the event. Another suggestion was keeping this a less formal and more community-centered meeting, especially including our most vulnerable community members and groups.
 - Use the event to focus at a higher level, including the systems that are currently in place keeping people from getting what they need or pushing people out of healthy housing and into homelessness and unhealthy housing.

As people working in this field in the systems, policy and programming across agencies, how do we move upstream so that we are not just healing the harm but preventing the harm from happening?

The conversation moving forward should include Durham Tech and people working on creation of jobs and transportation, to name a few issues.

**Partnership for a Healthy Durham
Health and Housing (H&H) Committee Meeting Zoom
Tuesday, July 18th, 2023**

	<p>Are there places where we can leverage what we have as a community to fill some gaps and do things better or differently so that people can access and stay in healthy housing and keep it?</p> <p>Is there a way for us to identify other areas that have had success in innovative ways surrounding this? We hear about so many barriers, but can we learn from others to move forward?</p> <p>Answers included: reminder of the past conversation with the Community Housing Solutions and Collaborative Cottage Grove in Greensboro, NC, around this similar issue and Reinvestment Partners who have a more policy/systems approach to things.</p>	
<p>Next Steps</p>	<p>There was a call for volunteers on working towards the symposium idea. If you are interested, email/contact Charlene Reiss at charlenereiss@gmail.com.</p> <p>Suggestions for moving forward is the intersectionality of all the following with health and housing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking at distance of work • Lack of grocery stores downtown (and in rural areas) • Transportation • Mold, carbon monoxide, etc. issues within housing units • Geography of the area • Current public health issues, including extreme heat and air conditioning costs <p>Tobin Freid, with Durham County, is currently focusing a lot on urban heat islands and is interested in looking more into maximum temperature ordinances. There was a big discussion on the relationship between lack of tree coverage and heat islands, relationship of redlined communities and relationship to climate</p>	<p>Volunteers interested in putting together the Health & Housing symposium should contact Charlene Reiss at charlenereiss@gmail.com</p>

**Partnership for a Healthy Durham
Health and Housing (H&H) Committee Meeting Zoom
Tuesday, July 18th, 2023**

	<p>change issues/environmental injustice. If anyone is interested in helping with this type of work, contact Tobin tfreid@dconc.gov.</p> <p>There is a new group of students with Duke Health that might be interested in getting started on their projects earlier than usual. Don Bradley is a good contact.</p> <p>It was suggested that the DataWorks/Durham Neighborhood Compass could come in to a meeting and present on things related to health & housing https://compass.durhamnc.gov/en/.</p> <p>The Physical Activity, Nutrition, and Food Access Committee (PANFA) of the Partnership for a Healthy Durham should also be invited to a future meeting to talk about the overlap between their work and the Health & Housing Committee's priorities.</p>	
Announcements	<p>Tobin Freid with Durham County spoke about the increase in funding for the solarize program: a program incentivizing group purchasing of solar panels and systems on low-income homes. County commissioner have increased funding to \$205,000 with last year and this year combined and the City might also have about \$200,000 available, enough for about 18-20 homes! The program is working with Durham Community Land Trust and other organizations to ensure that properties remain in the affordable housing pool. Solarize Triangle is a general reference point.</p> <p>Tobin is also working on a grant application for energy efficient upgrades for low to moderate income households. This is for both rental and owner-occupied homes. Email tfreid@dconc.gov if you are interested in working with this or have general questions about this program.</p> <p>Krista Kicsak, PANFA specialist, recommended the latest announcement from the Department of Education on new student loan repayment plans, which has</p>	

**Partnership for a Healthy Durham
Health and Housing (H&H) Committee Meeting Zoom
Tuesday, July 18th, 2023**

	specific changes for individuals near/around 150-225% of the poverty line. More information can be found at https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/save-plan?utm_source=mcp&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=camp_881	
--	---	--

Next Meeting: August 15th, 2023 at 8:30 AM

